



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

President's Letter *John Spruhan,*

President, Friends of the Salem Library

As we are in the New Year of 2019, I look forward to an active year of supporting the Salem Public Library. It's a good idea to start setting aside books and DVDs for our annual sale in September. They can be brought to the library now, or contact Ken if you need help moving them. There are certain items that we would prefer that you not donate, such as books that are falling apart, text books, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, devotional/feel good books and Bibles that have a gift dedication written in front, and cassette tapes. These don't sell, and as they come in, we would have to be put them on the free shelf anyway. When August comes around, we will need your help in setting up the sale, as well as volunteering at the sale. You can financially support the library in between sales by using Amazon Smile if you go through that website and designate Friends of the Salem Library to receive a small percentage of your amazon purchase. The magazines and books for sale, as well as the printing services at the library also support the Friends of the Salem library.

There are other important ways that you can support the library. Come in often and check out books and DVDs of interest. The library is always ordering new books and DVDs for loan. The staff keep track of these library visits, and this assists funding for the library from government and private sources. The library also has computers for online use, printing services, notary services among other things as a community resource. As part of the Roanoke Valley Library system, you can order books that our library does not have, but are available from another library. The staff can assist you on looking up the book that you want, and ordering it. I have in front of me the list of events that the staff have planned through March. There are teen, adult, and all age events. There is something for everybody! You should review the list when you come into the library, or check the library Facebook page and/or web page (www.salemlibrary.info). These events bring the library out to the community, and the community into the library for more than just books. Friends of the Salem library financially supports many of these events as well as other library improvements. ♦



Election of Officers *By the Editor*

The meeting regularly scheduled for the second Sunday in January, the 13th, was rescheduled to January 27 because of inclement weather. This delayed the election of officers until the 27th.

The following members were nominated to serve as officers to lead FOSL in 2019. All were elected by acclamation.

John Spruhan, President
Phil Roark, Vice President
Susan Ahalt, Secretary
Ken Sosnowski, Treasurer



L to R: Ken, Susan, Phil, and John hard at work

John Spruhan, our President, will serve his second year in that role as will Phil Roark, Vice President, and Ken Sosnowski, Treasurer. Ken also wears the hat of our Book Sale Chairman and has served in many other leadership positions in FOSL over the years. Susan Ahalt again agreed to serve as secretary after many years in that role. ♦

2018 BOOK SALE *By Ken Sosnowski,*

Treasurer/Book Sale Chairman

The book sale was a moderate success, this year, bringing in \$6,683.20. The number of books donated was about average, but the number of customers was below average. While the traffic was constant, it never reached the crowds we have become accustomed to. Several improvements were made to improve the flow for shopping and these were successful. The FOSL website is up and operating. We will work to increase our presence at next year's Olde Salem Days. ♦

Michele E. Green, Children's Senior Library Assistant

By Michele

Vintage "Salem Born & Salem Bred", Michele checked out her first library books in the wee Salem Library in the 1960s. She marched and tooted in the "Pride of Salem" bands, sang in the Chorale, and was in Andrew Lewis High School's last graduating class. Career adventures included band directing and teaching drama in Chesterfield Co. Schools, Virginia and then hopping over to Oregon to work as a Children's Librarian for 20 years. Returning to her hometown she only dreamed of landing a job in her community library... but was gobsmacked when she did! ◇ (Welcome home, Michele. Ed.)



Yoga and Tai Chi library programs will help keep you fit this winter:

Looking for free ways to keep moving during the cold winter months? Join us for two programs that will help you get fit when it's too cold to get outside! Lacey Leonard will be offering free yoga classes for beginners ages 16+ every Tuesday evening in March from 6:00-7:00pm. There's no registration necessary; just wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat if you have one, although she'll have extra yoga mats just in case. Our Women's Health with Qigong and Tai Chi program continues into 2019, now on Thursday evenings from 5:45-6:45pm. This free weekly facilitated practice is geared toward women seeking a gentle, mindful practice for strengthening and balance. Previous experience in meditation, tai chi, or yoga would be helpful, but is not required. Sign up at the front desk so the instructors can get a feel for attendance and experience levels for the group. ◇

Andrew Lewis High School Yearbooks now available online:

Thanks to partnerships with the Salem Educational Foundation and Alumni Association, Andrew Lewis Middle School, the Library of Virginia, and the Internet Archive, Andrew Lewis High School yearbooks from 1930-1977 are now available to view, save, and print online for free! Last fall, library staff members Susan Houston and

Ann Tripp carefully packed up 46 yearbooks and shipped them to New Jersey, home of the Internet Archive's scanning offices, where the yearbooks were scanned and shipped back to the library in less than two months. The Internet Archive is a non-profit digital library offering free universal access to over 20 million books, 4 million videos (news, vintage film recordings, etc.), and 4.5 million audio recordings (including 180,000 live concerts), as well as 345 billion archived web pages with information from libraries, nonprofit organizations, government organizations, and thousands of users who submit resources and media. Their partnership with the Library of Virginia has made possible the scanning of hundreds of yearbooks from across the state, including those from Salem's own ALHS. The digitization process was completed free of charge for our library, and the digital versions of these yearbooks are freely available online. Visit <https://archive.org/details/salempubliclibrary> for a trip back in time! ◇



FOSLs aid library in upgrading business technology: Mobile printing and new equipment coming in 2019.

Printing and photocopying documents is about to get a lot easier at the Salem Public Library! With the help of the Friends of Salem Library, the library will soon install a new public photocopier and a new public printer. The photocopier will print in both color and black-and-white, has a feed tray for multipage documents, features easy duplex (double-sided) copying, and has a built-in stapler. The color and black-and-white printer has a much faster printing speed than the old one, which will help keep patrons from having to wait long periods for multipage jobs.

Additionally, the Salem Public Library will be the first public library in the Roanoke Valley to offer mobile printing! Patrons will be able to print directly to the library's public printer from the laptops, smartphones, and other mobile devices and release their print jobs from the central print release station. There will also be a new page on the library's website where patrons can submit print jobs remotely (home, work, school, etc.) and then come to the library to release and pick up their print jobs. These new technology offerings, along with combining the printer, copier, and scanner into a central location that will be designated as the "business center", will greatly improve the experiences of students, mobile employees, and other patrons who rely on our printing and photocopying services.

Many thanks to the Friends for their support, and special thanks to John Spruhan, Ken Sosnowski, and Phil Roark for their assistance in reviewing quotes and selecting a new contract. ◇

Our Mission:

The Friends of the Salem Library was organized in 1988 to pursue the following mission: *To maintain an association of persons interested in libraries; to focus public attention on the library, its resources and services; to rally public support to ensure adequate library funding at municipal and state levels; to receive and encourage gifts and bequests to the library; to support and cooperate with the library in developing library services and facilities for the community.* FOSL is chartered as a non-stock corporation under Virginia law and holds tax-exempt status for Federal taxation purposes under Section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

New Children's program for kids with special needs and their families starts in February:

Starting February 1, the Salem Public Library will host "Sensory Night," its first after-hours program for children with special needs. Oftentimes families with special needs children avoid public places like libraries because they are concerned about how their child's behavior will be received by patrons and staff. This event is an opportunity for these families to visit the library and utilize our services in a friendly, relaxed setting. Program attendees can check out books and movies, get library cards, use the computers, and participate in activities provided by the highly trained staff from AB children Representatives from the Blue Ridge Autism and Achievement Center will also be in attendance to discuss their school and programs. The food truck Cookin' With Greece will be in the parking lot, providing a dinner opportunity for the families as well.

This program will continue on a monthly basis, on the first Friday of every month through July. Every month an outside organization, like the ABC's of ABA, will provide activities and other resources for the families in attendance. The success of the first six months of the program will determine whether or not we will continue offering it beyond July. For more information about Sensory Night, please contact Emily Metrock (cemetrock@salemva.gov). ◇

Our President's daughter, Vidyeia, enjoys the **Gingerbread Festival's petting zoo** at Christmas time. ◇



Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:

President: John Spruhan
Vice President: Phil Roark
Secretary: Susan Ahalt
Treasurer: Ken Sosnowski

Board of Directors: Sara Ahalt, Chairman

Gale Evans Janis Augustine
Betty Waldron Ken Sosnowski

Standing Committees: Book Sale: Ken Sosnowski
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper
Historian Pat Draper

Membership dues (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year**. **Consult your mailing label**. If the date shown is **prior to 2019**, please renew your membership. Pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk, by mail, or at the Member's Sale.

FOSL Schedule, 2019

FOSL holds four business meetings each year. They are on the 2nd Sunday of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute to regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make activities such as the Book Sale a success.

- **March 10:** Business meeting (*Daylight Savings begins today.*)
- **March 10** Board meeting after regular meeting
- **May 12:** Children's Art Show and reception
- **July 14:** Business meeting
- **Book Sale Preparation starts in August. Date TBD.**

Membership Form: Dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Telephone _____ **Email** _____

Type: Please indicate type of membership below with an X.

____ **Individual (\$10)** ____ **Family (\$15)** ____ **Sustaining (\$25)** ____ **Life (\$75)**

Please mail to: Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St, Salem, VA 24153. Make checks payable to: *Friends of the Salem Library* or *FOSL*. You may also drop this form and your check at the Library

This Newsletter is published biannually in January and August of each year by the Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St, Salem, VA 24153-3897